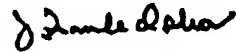


KUMAZAWA et al.
Q77598
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Claim 4 has been amended to correct an improper multiple dependency. New Claim 8 has been added to retain the same scope of coverage as in Claim 4 prior to the present Preliminary Amendment. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24,625

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 29, 2003